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MONITOR

VOL. 26 NO. 15 ♦ NOVEMBER 19, 2001

Task Force takes broad look at campus diversity

The job of the Task Force on Diversity is as broad-based as its name implies. Created by President Ribeau, the task force is charged with "assessing issues of diversity as they relate to students, staff, faculty and the campus community."

"From a perspective that values social justice, the task force will examine aspects of hiring, workplace climate, curriculum and programs and services as they pertain to diversity. The task force will make recommendations for a progressive institutional plan to support, fund and initiate policy regarding issues of diversity."

Early assessments show that more than 73 areas campuswide have something to do with diversity, said Steering Committee member Robert Smith, graduate student member of the BGSU Board of Trustees. And while coordination of efforts is clearly needed, the task force also wants to respect the autonomy of individual areas.

The ultimate goal is to "institutionalize our diversity efforts and make them a permanent part of our culture," Smith said. For example, one goal is for faculty to more widely embrace diversity and incorporate related ideas into their curricula, he said.

In the group's initial meetings, it soon became apparent that the issue would have to be broken down into smaller components. Subcommittees on programs and services, curriculum and development, hiring, retention, and climate and training were formed. Each subcommittee comprises a cross-section of University constituencies.

The task force is chaired by Alberto Gonzalez, vice provost for academic services and a member of the force's Steering Committee, which provides

guidance to the subcommittees. He says, "One of the least quoted parts of BGSU's Vision Statement is 'BGSU serves the diverse and multicultural communities of Ohio, the United States and the World.' It is incumbent on us to assess our level of service."

"As for equity, we should periodically examine what gets included and what gets excluded as we hire, teach and administer programs. We should ask ourselves 'On what basis do we include or exclude?'"

The task force will write a report to be delivered to the president in spring 2002, which will recommend concrete measures for the next step forward.

Toward that end, the subcommittees are assessing the situation as it stands today, preparing surveys to be sent to key offices and individuals who may play an important role in the future, and conferring with "veterans" of the issue for their wisdom and experience. The Latino Student Union, for example, a couple of years ago produced a "very good analysis of what needs to happen" on campus, Smith said. And the Diversity Plan adopted by the board of trustees in June 2000 was another important stride for BGSU.

The task force wants to hear from people all over the University. It has scheduled three days of Diversity and Equity Dialogues in which people can offer their views on the status of equity and diversity at BGSU. Committee members may also be contacted directly. See Monitor online for a complete listing of the subcommittee members.

The open conversations will be held from 7-9 p.m. Nov. 27-28 in 101B Olscamp Hall, and from 3-4:30 p.m. Nov. 29 in the Pallister Room, Jerome Library.

Spirit of peace and rebirth



(From left to right) Linda Dobb, executive vice president, Akiko Jones, GREAL, and Tsugikazu Nishigaki, president of Hiroshima Jogakuin University, celebrate BGSU's ties with Japan at a weeklong exhibition and conference called "The Spirit of Hiroshima." President Nishigaki spoke on peace education at his university, with which BGSU has an exchange program.

Melkote books examine the changing field of communication studies

The field of communication studies has changed drastically in the past several years, both on a practical and philosophical level. The rise of technology has "made the boundaries between interpersonal and mass communication porous or even nonexistent," according to Srinivas Melkote, telecommunications.

Melkote has written two books on communication studies, one dealing with the practical side of development communication, and the other the more conceptual, philosophical aspects.

Communication for Development in the Third World: Theory and Practice for Empowerment, co-authored by Leslie Steeves, director of graduate studies and research at the University of Oregon, is coming out in the United States in November and is already available in India. The book is the second edition of Melkote's extremely successful first book, published by Sage Publications in 1991. That edition filled a need for a core textbook on development communication, which encompasses issues of health, agriculture, family planning and integration and unity in multi-ethnic, multi-lingual societies in Asia and Africa.

When he began background work on the second edition,

Melkote said, he found the "whole landscape had changed." In fact, even the term "development" communication had taken on a pejorative tone, reminiscent of the old, Western style of "top down," dominant-culture communication.

In the '90s, scholarly thinking began to lean much more toward looking to local communities for answers to local problems and preserving culture and local knowledge. Liberation theology had gained ground, challenging the previously held view that religion was an impediment to modernization. Environmental concerns became more pressing. Also, a more feminist perspective began to counter the traditional paternalistic and male-dominated development communication.

The new edition builds on the framework of the first book, but includes chapters on all the more recent issues and is based on the latest literature in the field. It is designed to be of use to not only communication students and practitioners but to students and scholars in development studies and journalism, and to non-governmental agencies.

Melkote has also produced, since 1998, another book, this time more theoretical and re-

(Continued on back)

Longtime friends honored

Bill Schurk, sound recordings archivist, presents the Friend of the Library Award to Boogie Records co-owners Steven Essick, Debbie Marinik and Pat O'Connor (left to right) at the annual Authors and Artists reception Nov. 14. Almost 90 faculty and staff were also recognized for their work.



job postings.....

FACULTY

BGSU Firelands/Applied Sciences. Instructor (computer programming). Call the dean's office, 2-0623. Deadline: Feb. 28, 2002.

Contact Human Resources at 372-8421 for information regarding the following:
CLASSIFIED

(Employees wishing to apply for these positions may request a "Request for Transfer" form.)

Deadline for employees to apply is 1 p.m. Friday, Nov. 30.

Administrative Secretary 1 (C-161-Sb)—Student Affairs. Pay grade 8.

Automotive Mechanic 3 (C-149-Va) Facilities Services/Grounds. Pay Grade 10.

Custodial Worker Team Leader (C-159-Sb)—Bowen-Thompson Student Union. Pay Grade 4.

Custodial Worker (C-152-Sb)—Bowen-Thompson Student Union (seven positions). Pay Grade 2.

Custodial Worker (C-160-Sb)—Bowen-Thompson Student Union. Pay Grade 2. Twelve-month, part time.

Secretary 1 (C-164-Sb)—Bowen-Thompson Student Union. Pay Grade 6.

The following positions are being advertised on and off campus. Note the respective deadlines.

Nov. 19, 1 p.m.—

Library Media Technical Assistant 2 (C-136-Sb)—BGSU Firelands Library. Pay grade 6. Academic year, part time.

Maintenance Repair Worker 3 (C-137-Sb)—Ice Arena. Pay grade 3.

Secretary 2 (C-133-Sb)—International Studies Program. Pay grade 7. Twelve-month, part time.

Nov. 30, 1 p.m.—

Administrative Assistant 1 (C-163-Sb)—Bowen-Thompson Student Union. Pay Grade 8.

Cashier 1 (C-141-Vb)—University Dining Services. Pay grade 3. Academic year, part time.

Food Service Worker (C-

142/143-Sb)—University Dining Services-Catering (two positions). Pay grade 1. Nine-month, part time.

Parking Facilities Attendant (C-144-Sb)—Parking and Traffic. Pay grade 3. Academic year, part time.

Secretary 1 (C-145-Sb)—Department of Physics and Astronomy. Pay grade 6. Academic year, part time.

Student Services Counselor (C-162-Sb)—Student Financial Aid. Pay grade 7. Twelve-month, part time.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Manager (S-079)—University Dining Services. Administrative grade 12. Review of applications will begin Nov. 16 and continue until the position is filled.

Bookstore Director (M-096)—University Bookstore. Administrative grade 18. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled.

Assistant Director of Residence Life (residential neighborhoods) (S-093)—Office of Residence Life. Administrative grade 14. Review of applications will begin Nov. 16 and continue until the position is filled.

Psychologist (S-097)—Counseling Center. Administrative grade 14 for non-licensed and 17 for licensed. Deadline: Nov. 27.

Director of Promotions/Public Relations (M-104)—Television Services/WBGU-TV. Administrative grade 15. Deadline: Nov. 30.

Program Coordinator (S-01/069)—Bowen-Thompson Student Union (re-advertised). Administrative grade 14. Review of applications will begin Nov. 30 and continue until the position is filled.

Associate Director (M-105)—Center for Applied Technology; Large Format Digital Imaging Division of NISDM. Administrative grade 15. Deadline: Dec. 18.

Laboratory Manager (M-106)—Center for Applied Technology; Large Format Digital Imaging Division of NISDM. Administrative grade 13. Deadline: Dec. 18.

Melkote books examine communication

(Continued)

flective. *Critical Issues in Communication: Looking Inward for Answers*, also published by Sage Publications, was created as a tribute to the eminent K. E. Eapen, India's leading communications scholar and educator and an internationally renowned figure in the field. Melkote and his co-editor, Sandhya Rao, have collected essays by many of the world's most prominent thinkers on communication, on a sur-

prisingly diverse array of topics. The book contains an entire section devoted to India and its communication challenges.

Designed to be of use to scholars and graduate students in communication studies, journalism and mass communication, the book will also be of interest to scholars of political science, political economics and sociology.

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in brief

Holiday plant sale announced

The University greenhouse's annual holiday plant sale features poinsettias and other plants priced at \$3.25 to \$25. The sale runs through Dec. 19.

The selection includes ivy wreaths, holiday cacti, cyclamens and poinsettias in various sizes and colors. Departments may purchase plants only by using a BGSU area/org number.

For more information, call Frank Schemenauer at 2-7649.

Library offers extended hours

The Jerome Library staff will be up late from now until Dec. 20, to accommodate students who need to work and study till the wee hours.

The main building schedule will be as follows:

- Monday-Wednesday—8 a.m. till 2 a.m.
- Thursdays—8 a.m. till midnight
- Fridays—8 a.m. till 7:30 p.m.
- Saturdays—10 a.m. till 7:30 p.m.
- Sundays—noon till 2 a.m.

Special collections and reference desk hours may vary. Check the library home page for details.

Monitor publication schedule change

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, Monitor will arrive a day late to faculty and staff. Look for it on Tuesday, Nov. 27.

Flu vaccine available

Through Dec. 14, faculty and staff will be able to receive the flu vaccine at the Student Health Service. The vaccine will be administered to faculty and staff on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays, from 8-10 a.m. with no appointment needed. The cost is \$12. Staff members are asked to bring their BGSU ID when they come to the Health Service.

campus calendar.....

Monday, Nov. 19

Dissertation Defense, "Free Online Degrees: Fact or Fiction?" by Craig D. Wilson, higher education administration/educational technology; 2:30 p.m., 202 College of Technology Building.

Guest Lecture, "Memories, Message Sticks and Reconciliation: Contemporary Indigenous Australian Art," by Neville Weston, School of Visual Arts, Western Australia, 6:30 p.m., 204 Fine Arts Center.

Nov. 21-25

Thanksgiving Break

Continuing Events

Through Dec. 2

BGSU Theatre Production,

"The Skin of Our Teeth," Dec. 1 at 8 p.m., and Dec. 2 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. For reserved seats, call 2-2719.

Through Dec. 4

Planetarium Show, "Lunar Odyssey: The Moon for One and All," at 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays and 7:30 p.m. on Sundays, BGSU Planetarium. \$1 donation suggested.

www.bgsu.edu/faculty_staff/

Monitor
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